

1 **Amendment to the Claims**

2 **In the Claims:**

3 Please amend Claims 1, 4, 8, 10-12, and 14-15 and cancel Claims 6 and 7 as follows:

4 1. (Currently Amended) A method of creating a list in an electronic spreadsheet program, the
5 list comprising a plurality of records, wherein each record comprises a plurality of fields, comprising
6 the steps of:

7 (a) receiving a user command to create the list, wherein said user command
8 enables a user to create the list by guiding a user through performance of a plurality of sequences,
9 each sequence comprising a plurality of steps that result in the creation of the list;

10 (b) performing a first sequence comprising the steps of:

11 (i) determining whether pre-existing data is to be imported into the list;

12 (ii) if pre-existing data is to be imported into the list, determining where the
13 pre-existing data is located; and

14 (iii) if no pre-existing data is to be imported into the list, creating a
15 worksheet in the electronic spreadsheet program;

16 (c) performing a second sequence, subsequent to the first sequence, comprising
17 the step of defining the plurality of fields in the list, each field comprising a plurality of
18 characteristics; and

19 (d) performing a third sequence subsequent to the second sequence, comprising
20 the steps of:

21 (i) creating the list in the electronic spreadsheet program enabling a user to
22 create the list in a manner that determines whether the list comprises one of:

23 (1) a list object, which occurs if the user inserts the list into an
24 electronic spreadsheet program worksheet, such that different data that are not part of the list object
25 can be included within a different portion of said worksheet; and

26 (2) a list sheet, which occurs if the user inserts the list into the
27 electronic spreadsheet program worksheet, such that different data that are not part of the list cannot
28 be included within said worksheet; and

29 (ii) creating a continuing association between each field within each record
30 such that each field remains associated with other fields within each record when the record is

1 manipulated, regardless of whether a user selects all of the fields within each record when
2 manipulating records within the list and regardless of whether a user identifies the list.

3 2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining whether
4 pre-existing data is to be imported into the list further comprises the steps of:

5 (a) determining whether the pre-existing data is located in an existing electronic
6 spreadsheet program worksheet;

7 (b) if the pre-existing data is located in the existing electronic spreadsheet program
8 worksheet, prompting the user to input a range within the existing electronic spreadsheet program
9 worksheet comprising the pre-existing data; and

10 (c) if the pre-existing data is not located in the existing electronic spreadsheet
11 program worksheet, opening a Query dialog box operable for receiving user commands to navigate to
12 a location that contains the pre-existing data.

13 3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the first sequence further
14 comprises the step of determining the location of where to place the list.

15 4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 3, wherein the location to place the list is
16 selected from one of a new electronic spreadsheet program worksheet and ~~the~~ an existing electronic
17 spreadsheet program worksheet.

18 5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of defining the fields in
19 the list comprises at least one of the steps of: adding a new field, modifying a field, deleting a field,
20 and altering at least one of the characteristics of a field.

21 6. (Currently Canceled).

22 7. (Currently Canceled).

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1 8. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing computer-executable
2 instructions for displaying a plurality of dialog boxes that enable a user to graphically create a ~~List~~
3 ~~Object list~~ comprising a plurality of records, each record comprising a plurality of fields in a
4 spreadsheet, the computer-executable instructions, when executed, carrying out the steps of:

5 (a) displaying a first dialog box operable for enabling a user receiving user
6 commands to specify selectively create the list so that it comprises at least one of:

7 (i) a list object, which occurs if a user inserts data into an electronic
8 spreadsheet program worksheet, such that different data can be included within a different portion of
9 the worksheet that is not associated with the list object a location within the spreadsheet where the
10 List Object will be positioned; and

11 (ii) the location of any pre-existing data that will populate the spreadsheet a
12 list sheet, which occurs if a user inserts data into the electronic spreadsheet program worksheet, such
13 that different data that are not part of the list cannot be included within a different portion of the
14 worksheet;

15 (b) displaying a second dialog box operable for receiving user commands to define
16 a plurality of options associated with each of the plurality of fields in the ~~List Object list~~;

17 (c) displaying a third dialog box, operable for receiving user commands to save
18 the plurality of options associated with each field;

19 (d) creating the ~~List Object list~~ in a worksheet within the spreadsheet as indicated
20 in step (a); and

21 (e) creating a continuing association between each field within each record such
22 that each field remains associated with other fields within each record when the record is
23 manipulated, ~~regardless of whether a user selects all of the fields within each record when~~
24 ~~manipulating records within the list.~~

25 9. (Previously Cancelled)

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1 10. (Currently Amended) A user interface operable for graphically creating a List-Object list
2 comprising a plurality of records, each record comprising a plurality of fields within a spreadsheet,
3 the user interface comprising:

4 (a) a first dialog box comprising:

5 (i) a first plurality of input elements operable for receiving user commands
6 to determine a location of data to import into the List-Object list; and

7 (ii) a second plurality of input elements operable for receiving user
8 commands to determine the location where the List-Object list will be placed in the spreadsheet such
9 that a user is enabled to determine that the list comprises one of:

10 (1) a list object, which occurs if the user inserts data into an
11 electronic spreadsheet program worksheet, such that different data that are not part of the list can be
12 included within a different portion of said worksheet; and

13 (2) a list sheet, which occurs if the user inserts the data into the
14 electronic spreadsheet program worksheet, such that different data that are not part of the list cannot
15 be included within a different portion of said worksheet;

16 (b) a second dialog box comprising:

17 (i) a window for defining the fields in the List-Object list;

18 (ii) a field form box for receiving a field name for each field defined in the
19 window; and

20 (iii) a drop down menu operable for selecting a data type associated with
21 each field defined in the window; and

22 (c) a third dialog box, comprising:

23 (i) a reference box for showing a name associated with the List-Object list;
24 and

25 (ii) a "FINISH" button for creating the List-Object list, such that each field
26 in each record is logically and continuingly associated with every other field in the record, regardless
27 of whether a user selects all of the fields within each record when manipulating records within the
28 list.

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1 11. (Currently Amended) The user interface of Claim 10, wherein the first dialog box further
2 comprises:

3 (a) a first reference window for receiving user input to identify the location of the
4 data to import into the ~~List-Object~~ list external to the spreadsheet; and

5 (b) a second reference window for receiving user input to identify the location in
6 the spreadsheet of the ~~List-Object~~ list.

7 12. (Currently Amended) The user interface of Claim 10, wherein the second dialog box
8 further comprises a plurality of buttons operable for defining the fields in the ~~List-Object~~ list.

9 13. (Original) The user interface of Claim 12, wherein the plurality of buttons is comprised
10 from the group consisting essentially of an "Add" button, a "Modify" button, a "Delete" button, and a
11 "Setting" button.

12 14. (Currently Amended) The user interface of Claim 10, wherein the ~~List-Object~~ list
13 comprises:

14 (a) a frame operable for defining a border of the ~~List-Object~~ list;

15 (b) a row selector for indicating which row of the ~~List-Object~~ list is selected;

16 (c) a plurality of field headers operable for identifying the fields in the plurality of
17 records; and

18 (d) a cell table operable for storing individual fields.

19 15. (Currently Amended) The user interface of Claim 14, wherein the frame is active when
20 an active cell is within the ~~List-Object~~ list.

21 16. (Original) The user interface of Claim 14, wherein the field headers are ghosted out over
22 the top of a spreadsheet column header when the field headers are scrolled off the spreadsheet.

23 17. (Previously Presented) The user interface of Claim 14, wherein embedded data comprise
24 an unused space around the cell table, the unused space expanding as new records are inserted into
25 the cell table, the unused space being operable for facilitating the insertion of new records and fields
26 by maintaining a region between the frame and the cell table.